

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

SOLVING PROBLEMS THAT MATTER

At RPS we have defined our purpose to create shared value by solving problems that matter to a complex, urbanising and resource-scarce world. One of our greatest environmental contributions is through our role as advisor to our clients; helping to positively shape the impacts of the projects we are involved in.

Companies face an increasing expectation from both internal and external stakeholders to demonstrate a coherent Corporate Responsibility Strategy and robust environment, social, governance (ESG) reporting. Failure to do so can put their licence to operate at risk.

With deep expertise, founded on over 40 years advising on sustainability and environmental issues we have gained wide insight into business practices and the key sustainability challenges affecting various markets. It's this experience and knowledge transfer that sets us apart and increases the value that we bring to our clients.

Our teams are led by highly experienced senior individuals who have worked within international consultancy, government, business and industry. Our clients are successful in their own right and recognise the need for commercially focused and close support from trusted advisors.

Supporting Sustainable Development and incorporating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs)

The United Nations issued the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in 2015. These SDGs articulate the key social and environmental challenges that face the world today.

Aligning corporate strategy with key UN Sustainable Development Goals that are most relevant to an organisation can widen opportunities for future investment and activity within current and emerging markets while safeguarding against potential environmental, social and governance risks.

With multi-disciplinary expertise, we inform, advise and support clients to align with not only the UN SDGs, but global indices and reporting initiatives. Working in partnership we make complex easy.



1. Strategy

- Working with clients to define a vision, mission statement, goals and targets
- Benchmarking Corporate Responsibility credentials and performance
- Identifying and canvassing opinion from key stakeholders including risk and materiality assessments
- Determining key sustainability material issues in the business and supply chain
- Developing and helping to implement robust and transparent corporate responsibility strategies and programmes
- Working closely with our clients' teams as an extension of their business on specific engagements, to review progress and/or as a longer term retained advisor

2. Performance & Governance

- Designing and implementing policies and environmental management systems (EMS)
- Legislative compliance and resource efficiency reviews and audits
- Improving efficiency and performance through enhanced resource and environmental management
- Developing and helping implement ethical trading systems and policies
- Delivery of training and awareness raising programmes

3. Communications

- Improving public perception and brand value through corporate sustainability reporting on social and environmental performance
- Alignment with and submission to external benchmarks: Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI), Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), GRESB, FTSE4Good, EPRA and more
- Developing credible sustainability related publications for inclusion on websites, social media, brochures, customer presentations, media responses and reports

4. Supply Chain

- Supply chain audits (e.g. compliance, buying standards, Codes of Practice)
- Assessing performance and providing on-going support to suppliers
- Advisory support on international labour standards / ethical trading compliance
- SEDEX management, supplier engagement and compliance reporting
- Global sustainability hotspotting assessments (e.g. labour standards, water scarcity)
- Policy statements including Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking, Anti Bribery, Whistleblowing, Health & Wellbeing and more

5. Assurance

- Independent review and verification of corporate sustainability reports
- Peer review of company reports
- Internal audit of systems and strategy implementation

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Shaftesbury PLC

Shaftesbury PLC is a FTSE 250 listed property investment company that owns and manages a mixed-use portfolio of over 600 central London buildings worth in excess of £3.99 billion.

We have been working with Shaftesbury since 2002 and in that time have assisted them in developing and implementing their sustainability strategy. We now provide a part time seconded consultant to further embed the strategy throughout the business. Most recently RPS is advising and supporting Shaftesbury with setting a Science Based Target to align their greenhouse gas emission reduction with climate science, seeking to support the UK's commitment for Net Zero by 2050.

During the course of the ongoing contract we have provided the following deliverables:

- Engaging with Shaftesbury's principal suppliers (project managers and managing agents) in the implementation of the CSR strategy and advising the suppliers on trends in sustainability and environmental requirements.
- Undertaking an annual review of refurbishment sites and management of Shaftesbury's portfolio and drafting a publication on the company's website. The review includes collation and analysis of performance data across all ESG disclosures. The performance of the key suppliers – project managers, site managers and managing agents is assessed as part of this review.
- Annual completion of submissions to FTSE4Good, GRESB, CDP and others as required.
- Engagement with sectoral stakeholder groups to inform Shaftesbury's ongoing strategy.
- In addition, RPS provides BREEAM certification support for both domestic and non-domestic refurbishment schemes.



FTSE4Good



PROJECT EXPERIENCE



HELICAL

Helical PLC

Helical PLC is a London and Manchester based property investment and management company. In 2010 RPS was commissioned to support the delivery of the company's environmental management system and corporate reporting. We are now retained to continue this support.

The work requires: regular auditing of the company's processes; collating data for key performance indicators; updating and implementing the environmental management system; and reporting corporate responsibility performance annually for inclusion within the company's Annual report and on the corporate website in accordance with EPRA Sustainability Best Practice Reporting.

Since 2014 RPS has also prepared the company's submission to the CDP. We are currently supporting Helical in progressing their new corporate strategy and approach to sustainability, advising them on the most holistic approach relevant to their business model.



Countryside Properties PLC

Countryside Properties PLC is a developer of housing, commercial property and recreational and community facilities. The company has an annual turnover in excess of £400 million and employs approximately 600 people.

RPS has been working for this major housebuilder since 2000 and undertook an initial environmental review, which lead to the drafting and implementation of a Corporate Policy. Subsequently, RPS has assisted the company in implementing the Policy through various initiatives including assisting with the successful implementation to ISO 14001 for the company and its subsidiaries covering all activities from land acquisition, planning and design through to the onsite construction process. RPS was retained as the internal auditor of the company's quality and environmental management system for three years until an in-house resource was recruited. We have also verified the company's Annual Sustainability report since 2001 which includes full audits of construction site activities as part of the verification process.



Telford Homes PLC

RPS was commissioned in 2018 to undertake the verification of the Sustainability Report of Telford Homes Plc – a listed developer of residential-led, mixed-use sites in London.

The company focus is on brownfield opportunities in locations across London where the need for homes far exceeds supply. For the last two years RPS has verified the Sustainability Report including the company's GHG statement in the Annual Report.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE



De Beers UK Ltd

De Beers UK is the sales and marketing arm of De Beers, the international diamond company. RPS was commissioned in 2004 to successfully assist De Beers in the implementation of BS EN ISO 14001, including undertaking a Gap Analysis, identification of significance evaluation of aspects and impacts, defining objectives and targets, providing training and general implementation of the EMS.

RPS continues to be retained to undertake internal audits and assist the company in maintaining its certification as well as aiding the integration of its UK systems with that of Anglo America.



Ebbsfleet Development Corporation (EDC)

RPS has been working with EDC since 2018 developing an Environmental Sustainability Strategy for Ebbsfleet Garden City, a new 21st Century Garden City located in Kent.

RPS has worked with the EDC to identify any gap in work carried out to date and set actions and ambitious targets moving forward to ensure the development addresses the three pillars of Sustainability – environmental, social and economic. The strategy is aligned with national and local planning policy and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, as well as other Ebbsfleet Garden City site wide strategies; currently being developed to ensure the development adopts a holistic approach to sustainable development.

ADDITIONAL SERVICES

Water Resources

- Global water scarcity hotspot mapping
- Supply source sustainability & risk assessments
- Water footprinting
- Permitting & water resource planning
- Water recycling & reduction

International Labour Standards / Human Rights & Ethical Trade

- Policy & ethical trade programme development
- Supply chain reviews and audits
- Non-compliance advisory support
- SEDEX management, social KPIs & supplier engagement
- Assistance in supply chain capacity building
- Training & awareness building

Customer Sustainability Scorecards & Standards

- Excel through targeted improvements
- Staff awareness raising
- Assistance with specific projects
- Assistance with cascading change through supply chain
- Independent review of your progress

Non-Financial Corporate Responsibility Reporting

- Reporting on environmental, social and health & safety performance
- Specialist alignment with industry indices & standards (e.g. DJSI, CDP, GRI-4 etc.)
- Independent review and report verification

Carbon Management

- Greenhouse gas emission assessments
- Carbon footprinting
- Life Cycle Assessments (LCA)
- Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) Submissions
- Climate change mitigation, adaptation and scenario analysis
- Advisory support on energy management

Environmental & Resource Management

- Implementing Environmental Management Systems
- Defining environmental management plans, objectives & targets
- Compliance reviews & audits
- Resource efficiency reviews
- Environmental communications & reporting
- Defining environmental KPIs
- Delivering training and awareness building programmes

Buildings & Infrastructure

- BREEAM assessments
- Code of Sustainable Home Assessments
- Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) Assessments
- Display Energy Certificates
- Energy Performance Certificates
- Sustainable construction



ABOUT RPS

Founded in 1970, RPS is a leading global professional services firm of 5,600 consultants and service providers. Located in 125 countries across six continents, RPS define, design and manage projects that create shared value for a complex, urbanising and resource scarce world.

We deliver a broad range of services across the asset lifecycle in: property, energy, transport, water, defence & government services and resources. We provide services in project & programme management, design & development, water services, environment, advisory & management consulting, exploration & development, planning & approvals, health, safety & risk, oceans & coastal, laboratories, training and communication & creative services. The stand out for our clients is that we use our deep expertise to solve problems that matter, making them easy to understand and we're easy to work with – Making complex easy.

Today, tomorrow and together our founders' principles remain at our core where we continue to find unexpected answers to shape our environmental, social and economic landscapes.

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